

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
JUNE 16, 2005**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Chris Kozaites, President, at 9:00 a.m., at the El Dorado Park West Community Center, in the Senior Center Library. Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine, took roll call and confirmed a quorum.

Present: Chris Kozaites, President
Harry Saltzgaver, Vice President
Bea Antenore
Raymond Chavarria
Simon George
William Marmion
Drew Satariano

Absent: none

Staff: Phil Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Dennis Eschen, Manager, Planning and Development Bureau
Anna Mendiola, Park Development Officer
Janet Day-Anselmo, Manager, Business Operations Bureau
Gwendolyn Parker, Superintendent of Contracts and Revenue Development
Diane Lewis, Manager, Community Enrichment Programs Bureau
Steven Neal, Chief Ranger
Ellen Calomiris, Historic Sites Officer
Cindy Fogg, Superintendent of Youth Services
Ann Link, Summer Food/Youth Services
Chrissy Marshall, Manager, Community Recreation Programs
Robin Black, Executive Secretary to the Director

Guests: Deanne Cecil
Robert Lamond, Partners of Parks
Kristen Autry, Save Long Beach City Skyline
Darryl Alexander, Onshore Food Service

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MAY 19, 2005

It was moved by Commissioner Chavarria and seconded by Commissioner Satariano to approve the May 19, 2005 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

III. SAMMY AWARD PRESENTATION – DEL RANSOM

Del Ransom presented the Sammy Award to Marla Camerino. Mr. Ransom stated that Ms. Camerino came in as a temporary clerical worker. Mr. Ransom stated that Ms. Camerino is now a permanent employee working with Community Recreation Programs Superintendent Sherri Nixon-Joiner.

Commissioner Antenore asked what Sammy did the past month when he was with Mr. Ransom. Mr. Ransom responded that Sammy was kind of mad at him. He said that it was a busy month and Sammy sat in the corner.

IV. EMPLOYEE-OF-THE-MONTH PRESENTATION FOR JUNE

President Kozaites stated that Vice President Saltzgaver would announce the Employee of the Month.

Vice President Saltzgaver announced that there was a tie this month and there were two Employees of the Month for June: Ron McIntosh, Lead/Supervisory Employee of the Month from the Maintenance Operations Bureau, and Brandy Ferrate, Lead/Supervisory Employee of the Month from Community Recreation Programs Bureau.

Ms. Chrissy Marshall stated that it is her pleasure to have this award presented to Ms. Ferrate. She said that Brandy started with the Department in June of 2002, as a Recreation Leader III, quickly climbing the ranks and becoming a permanent part-time Recreation Assistant. She said that up until about two weeks ago, Ms. Ferrate worked at Veterans Park in charge of the extended day program and will now be in charge of the day camp, summer fun days, and youth sports at Wardlow Park.

Mr. Jeff Edwards stated that he is Ron McIntosh's supervisor and Ron is in charge of the custodial services within the Tidelands area. He said that he is very proud of Mr. McIntosh, who is so steady, diligent, and well organized that his division rarely gets noticed because there are no problems. Mr. Edwards said that he never has to worry about an assignment given to Ron, because he knows it will be done right and done on time.

V. PRESENTATION TO PARK RANGER KEVIN PHILLIPS

President Kozaites stated that Kevin Phillips has done a wonderful thing for this country and presented Mr. Phillips with a certificate. He called on Ms. Diane Lewis to explain what Kevin has done.

Ms. Lewis said that Kevin Phillips was being honored today for his safe return from Iraq. She said that Kevin enlisted in 1988 and enlisted to the National Guard active duty in 1996. He became a part-time park ranger in 1999. This was his fifth war, and

he has served in Panama, Desert Storm, Somalia, Afghanistan, and Iraq. He was attached to the U.S. Embassy and his primary job was diplomatic protection services, protecting ranking officers of the embassy, members of the United Nations, countless generals, and members of the new Iraqi government. Ms. Lewis said that Kevin has been married since 1997 and has four children. She said that we are honored to have him as an employee.

Mr. Phillips implored everyone, regardless of how everyone feels about what is going on in the world, to pay attention to a group that is being overlooked. He said to please look after and take care of the soldiers' wives and families. He thanked everyone.

Chief Ranger Steven Neal welcomed Mr. Phillips back.

VI. PRESENTATION TO WILLIAM MARMION

President Kozaites thanked Mr. Marmion for all his years of service and personally, it has been a pleasure serving with him. He has done an outstanding job on the Commission and brought a lot to the city with his service. He presented a plaque to Mr. Marmion in appreciation for his eight years of service on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Vice President Saltzgaver thanked Mr. Marmion for being a mentor and a model of community service and caring.

Commissioner Antenore stated that she has known Mr. Marmion since 1960, when he was a teacher to her boys. She said that he is a great teacher, a great citizen, a great person, a great husband, a great father, and it has been a wonderful part of her life to have known him.

Commissioner Satariano stated that his family has know the Marmion family for over 50 years, and Bill has provided a consistent, stable style of leadership over the years, as has the whole Marmion family. He looks forward to seeing what Bill will be doing over the next couple of decades.

Mr. Hester thanked Mr. Marmion, from the Department. He said that Mr. Marmion has helped take the Commission to a new level. The Commission is much more active in the community and in support of the Department. He said that he had been asked by the Mayor, who was not available, to present Mr. Marmion with a clock. Mr. Hester then presented Mr. Marmion with a windbreaker and an official "William Marmion Park" sign from the Department.

Commissioner Marmion thanked everyone. He said that the Mayor called him asking if he would be willing to serve to replace Rae Gabelich, a Parks and Recreation Commissioner whose term was ending. He said that he has been watching Mr. Hester for the past eight years, and how Phil has transformed this department. He said that he has enjoyed working with staff and he would be watching from the sidelines.

Commissioner George said that he would like to arrange for a luncheon at the Old Ranch Country Club in Seal Beach, on July 21, about 12:00 noon, right after the next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

VII. COMMISSION ACTION ITEMS

#05-0601

PERSONAL SERVICES/INSTRUCTION AGREEMENTS-MONTHLY APPROVAL

It was moved by Commissioner Marmion and seconded by Commissioner Antenore to authorize the Community Recreation Programs Bureau manager or his or her management designee to execute the Personal Services and Instruction Agreements and amend Attachment "A" of the agreements as needed. The motion carried unanimously.

#05-0602

MEMORIAL PLAQUE FOR GREG CECIL

Mr. Hester stated that this was an item that came to the Department requesting placement of a memorial plaque in Los Altos Park. He said that this would be the first time that there would be a memorial of this type. The individual was a resident of Long Beach and used the park on a regular basis, and the family is looking to place a memorial plaque in memory of Mr. Cecil. Mr. Hester asked if there was anyone in the audience who wanted to speak.

Ms. Deanne Cecil stated that she is Greg Cecil's niece. She said that he was a police officer for 28 years. She said that Greg grew up in the neighborhood by Los Altos Park, and before there were drinking fountains, the kids would drink from the sprinklers. The family thought it would be fun to dedicate a drinking fountain at the park to Greg.

Commissioner Chavarria asked if the community organizations around the park were aware of this proposal? Mr. Hester responded that staff has not talked to any community associations yet, but they would do that. He said that he did not anticipate any problem because the neighborhood is usually very supportive.

It was moved by Commissioner Satariano and seconded by Commissioner Chavarria to approve the placement and installation of the memorial plaque for Mr. Greg Cecil. The motion carried unanimously.

#05-0603

AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A PICNIC CONCESSION PERMIT WITH US MARKETING SPECIALISTS, INC., DOING BUSINESS AS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EVENTS

Mr. Hester stated that this is one of the picnic services historically approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission. He said that that the City permits these companies to make sure they have adequate insurance.

It was moved by Commissioner Chavarria and seconded by Commissioner Antenore to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a Picnic Service Concession Permit for US Marketing Specialists, Inc., doing business as Southern Events, for a term of three years, with two one-year options, subject to the discretion of the Director. The motion carried unanimously.

#05-0604

AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A SECOND AMENDMENT TO PICNIC SERVICE CONCESSION PERMIT NO. 27428 TO CHANGE THE PERMITTEE NAME FROM POSH PARTIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS, INC. TO POSH PRODUCTIONS, INC.

Mr. Hester stated that this is a similar picnic service company that is requesting to change their name and to extend their term.

It was moved by Commissioner Chavarria and seconded by Commissioner Satariano to authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a second amendment to Permit No. 27428 to extend the term through June 30, 2006, and to change the name of the Permittee from Posh Parties and Special Events, Inc. to Posh Productions, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.

#05-0605

AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A SPECIAL EVENT CONCESSION PERMIT WITH DARRYL ALEXANDER, DOING BUSINESS AS ONSHORE FOOD SERVICE, FOR FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE SALES AT THE 2005 LONG BEACH MUNICIPAL BAND CONCERT SITES

Mr. Hester stated that a request for proposals was sent out to concession operators for the municipal band concerts. He said that there were two responses and the companies were interviewed by a panel, which recommended that Onshore Food Service be awarded the contract.

Ms. Gwendolyn Parker stated that this year the theme for the municipal band concert series is based on food, with a patriotic picnic, western barbecue, big apple deli, and several other themes. Each week there will be food that represents the musical theme. Ms. Parker distributed the municipal band flyers.

Mr. Darryl Alexander, the owner of Onshore Food Service, said that he has been providing services for the Department for the past 12 years. He thanked the Parks and Recreation Commission.

It was moved by Commissioner Chavarria and seconded by Commissioner George to execute a permit with Darryl Alexander, doing business as Onshore Food Service, to sell food and non-alcoholic beverages during the 2005 Municipal Band concert season at the designated performance sites, from June 28, 2005 through August 5, 2005. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARING

A. FEES AND CHARGES RELATING TO FILMING LOCATION FEES

President Kozaites opened the public hearing

Mr. Hester stated that the City wants to make sure it doesn't price itself out of the market for special events and filming. He stated that staff has been working with the Special Events and Filming Bureau and feels comfortable with these fees.

Vice President Saltzgaver stated that the Executive Committee met with staff and wanted to point out that these fees are specifically related to park facilities. He said there are other fees in the City, but those are not under the purview of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Commissioner Satariano said he was very impressed with how the Special Events and Filming Bureau has analyzed the market and knows exactly where their place is in the market. He said that he is convinced that they are walking a fine line between being competitive and properly priced and becoming overpriced, which is what happened to the City of Alhambra recently. He said that he supports these fees.

President Kozaites asked for public comment. There were no comments, so he closed the public hearing on fees.

It was moved by Vice President Saltzgaver and seconded by Commissioner Antenore to adopt a resolution for fees and charges relating to filming location fees, effective October 1, 2005. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
President Kozaites, Chair

President Kozaites stated that the Committee met last week to discuss the agenda.

1. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

President Kozaites stated that he has not had any feedback yet.

Commissioner Antenore requested that she stay on the City Schools/Joint Use Committee.

Commissioner Satariano stated that that Commissioner Chavarria should continue with his leadership and direction and he would like to stay on the Equal Employment Opportunity and Customer Satisfaction Committee as well.

Commissioner Marmion recommended that the Commissioners think about changing some of the assignments. He said that one becomes familiar with a particular task and he thought it important for at least one new person to come to each committee. He said that it was his experience that new committee assignments help to fill in an aspect about what the Department is all about.

Vice President Saltzgaver suggested postponing the decision until the new Commissioner is appointed and they have a little more time to take a look at the Committees.

B. FINANCE AND APPEALS COMMITTEE
Commissioner Satariano, Chair

Commissioner Satariano stated that the financial report was included in the packet.

C. PARK SAFETY COMMITTEE
Commissioner Marmion, Chair

Commissioner Marmion stated that the quality and substance of the Committee reports over the years have improved tremendously. He stated that the park safety report was included in the packet.

D. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND CUSTOMER SATISFACTION COMMITTEE
Commissioner Chavarria, Chair

Commissioner Chavarria stated that the Committee did not meet this month; however, there was information in the Director's report on page 5.

E. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS COMMITTEE
Vice President Saltzgaver, Chair

Vice President Saltzgaver stated that the Committee met yesterday, which was the first public meeting for the Sports Park EIR. He stated that the press release from the City Manager's office was included in the packet regarding the series of public meetings that would take place. He said that this would be coming back to the full Parks and Recreation Commission at the July meeting, which would be a public meeting where the Commission could make recommendations to the Planning Commission but would not be able to take any action.

F. CITY SCHOOLS/JOINT COMMITTEE
Commissioner Antenore, Chair

Commissioner Antenore stated that she received a list from the School District of the schools that would have lunches served this summer.

Commissioner Marmion said he was asked to be on the Committee because of his familiarity with the School District and some of the issues. He said that neither the District nor the Department was as represented at the meeting as well as he would have liked. He stated that he would like this meeting to be a priority because this is important dialog. Commissioner Marmion stated that the quality of life is going to be dependent on these two agencies coming together and making the best use of their talent and resources.

Commissioner Marmion stated that he was impressed with the participation of a staff member, Joy Warren, at the meeting.

X. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO COMMISSION**

A. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – MAY 2005

Commissioner Marmion said that he has some good news about the Rancho Los Cerritos. He said that the Rancho submitted a request to the Miller Foundation for three years of funding to jump-start the construction of the new visitors center. The Foundation agreed to fund \$50,000 a year for three years, for a total of \$150,000, towards the visitors center and hopefully the Rancho Foundation could raise the balance.

Commissioner Antenore stated that on page 16, regarding the Volunteers of America (VOA) meals, she heard they were not going to be able to provide the meals any longer. Mr. Hester responded that she was correct.

Mr. Hester stated that the VOA, which serves meals at the City's sites, has notified the Area Agency on Aging that they do not want to be the meal provider for Long Beach and Lakewood any longer. Mr. Hester stated that the Department discovered this through a press release. He said that Chrissy Marshall has been in discussions with the staff and they found another organization, Human Services Agency (HSA), which is looking to step in and provide those services.

Ms. Marshall stated that HSA is looking for the switchover to occur August 1, 2005. She said that HSA is trying to transition over to make sure that there will be no slip in service and to extend that to September 1. Plus, they still need to request a fee waiver from the Department and the Parks and Recreation Commission before they begin.

Vice President Saltzgaver said that VOA has provided an incredible service in the city; unfortunately, their office has been in disarray for the last year or more. He said it is critical to see the service continue, but he feels badly that the Department was not aware this was going on.

Mr. Hester stated that he was not sure if the organization would be ready to come before the Commission at the July meeting, but staff would be meeting with them.

Commissioner Marmion asked about the "Good Sports" event happening on June 25.

Ms. Marshall stated that the event is scheduled for Saturday, June 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at Blair Field. She said that it is not confirmed, but they are hoping that the keynote speakers will be Tommy Lasorda and Milton Bradley. She stated that Sports Illustrated has teamed with the National Recreation and Park Association to do the "Good Sports" program, which are city and recreation agencies coming together to the forefront to promote good sports in the city with independent youth leagues. Ms. Marshall said that one portion of the day would be a summit to reach out to the parents and discuss putting youth back in the sports and having the parents stepping back. The second portion is just a festival and a fun time for the kids. She said that there would be break-out sessions with coaches and parents to discuss ideas from teams and controlling negative parent behavior.

Commissioner Chavarria stated that an item on page 27 mentions that the North Long Beach Redevelopment Agency Project Area Committee recommended funding to add a parcel to Admiral Kidd Park and to improve the center. He suggested that a thank you letter be sent to the North PAC.

Commissioner Satariano stated that under upcoming events on page 4, he wanted to remind everyone that the Hall of Fame presentation is this Saturday, June 18. He also reminded everyone about the upcoming Sea Festival, 60-day event, which will begin the weekend of July 4th.

Commissioner George stated that on page 4, it mentioned the Dr. Bob Jazz Quartet. He asked if they were from CSULB. Ms. Calomiris responded that they have performed at CSULB.

XI. CORRESPONDENCE

President Kozaites stated that there was no correspondence.

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Kozaites stated that there was no unfinished business.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. RANCHO LOS CERRITOS LANDSCAPE RESTORATION

Mr. Hester stated that Ms. Ellen Calomiris is here to make a presentation.

Ms. Calomiris stated that they are delighted that the Miller Foundation has granted the Rancho \$50,000 per year for three years, as a matching grant for construction of the visitor/education center.

Ms. Calomiris stated that the Rancho Los Cerritos master plan was approved by the City Council in 2002. She addressed a portion of phase 2 of the project, which involves perimeter landscaping along the west and north sides of the Rancho, as well as raising the fence line. She said that it also involves restoring the arroyo, which is one of the few open spaces still left on the property and installing a California native garden. She said that the funding for the design work was from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy.

Ms. Calomiris presented the plans that had been developed at 90 percent to date, which would be completed on June 30, 2005. She said that they needed to retain any historic plant material and introduce as infill, California native plants, which would lower their irrigation needs. They also wanted to retain any historic features and pick up historic themes on any new features, such as railings and seating. She said that they also want to build a really strong privacy barrier between the Rancho and the neighbors.

It was moved by Commissioner Marmion and seconded by Commissioner Chavarria to approve the designs for the arroyo restoration, perimeter fence and landscape improvements, and development of the California native garden at Rancho Los Cerritos Historic Site. The motion carried unanimously.

B. SUMMER FOOD SERVICE AND MOBILE RECREATION SUMMER PROGRAMS – CYNTHIA FOGG

Ms. Cynthia Fogg introduced Ann Link, who does all the work for the Summer Food program. She stated that the Summer Food program is funded by money from United States Department of Agriculture that has flowed through the State Department of Education. She said that the Department partners with the School District, who provides the food, and Department staff would be serving the food at 35 sites this summer. She distributed a listing of the sites.

Ms. Link stated that this is the City's 26th year of providing this program. She said that the purpose of the program is to provide the same kind of nourishing, well-balanced lunch during the summer that they receive during the school year through the National School Lunch Program. She said that at any of the 35 sites, if any child 18 years of age or younger comes in and wants a lunch, they are served a lunch. There is no paperwork, no difficulty, and kids don't have to prove they need the lunch. The Department is reimbursed for the lunches served and we pay the School District for the lunches ordered. Ms. Link stated that they would begin serving June 20 through August 19, and they plan on serving approximately 100,000 lunches this year. She said that the record keeping and program regulations are very stringent.

Commissioner Marmion asked about the time between August 19 and the beginning of school.

Ms. Link responded that there is a lapse there, and they would love to cover it all, but there is no seamless summer program. She stated that there are lunch programs at the year-round school sites that provide lunches all the time for kids.

Ms. Fogg stated that the Parks and Recreation Commission also asked about the summer Mobile Recreation Programs. She said that the Mobile Recreation Program trucks visit 20 sites throughout the city, Monday through Friday, and that they operate for ten weeks, beginning June 20. She stated that the money for the program comes from the Community Development Block Grant funds. Ms. Fogg said that the sites they visit have to be approved by Mr. Dennis Thys, the Neighborhood Services Bureau Manager, and the site coordination is done through the NIS Coordinators, who help them identify neighborhoods where the kids do not have access to parks and there are apartment complexes with a lot of kids living in them. She said that the Police and Fire Departments need to be notified because staff blocks off the streets. Ms. Fogg said that the Department

has four trucks that each visit two sites per day. She invited the Commissioners to view the Mobile Recreation Trucks parked outside, after the meeting.

XIV. COMMENTS

A. AUDIENCE

There were no comments from the audience.

B. STAFF

Mr. Hester stated that he wanted to remind the Commissioners about the Juneteenth celebration on Saturday, June 18, at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park. He said that there would also be a pier art celebration on June 18, at 11:00 a.m., to show some of the new benches that would be a part of the enhancement. He said that Partners of Parks is working very closely on this project with the medallions. Mr. Hester also reminded the Commissioners about the Baseball and Softball Hall of Fame event on June 18, at 4:00 p.m. He said that the opening of Rotary Centennial Park would be on June 25, and the Sports Illustrated event, also on June 25, would begin at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Hester mentioned the City's Budget Summit scheduled for July 9, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at The Grand, and he encouraged the Commissioners to attend that day.

President Kozaites asked about the status of the National Park and Recreation Association (NRPA) Gold Medal Awards. Mr. Hester responded that the final video would be sent in on June 17, and staff could show the video at the July Commission meeting. He stated that the winner would be announced at the NRPA Conference in October.

C. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Antenore stated that the Strategic Plan for Older Adults went before the City Council on June 14.

Vice President Saltzgaver said he wanted to inform the Commissioners of a possible conflict of interest; the Grunion Gazette has become the presenting sponsor of the community portion of the Sea Festival.

XV. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 21, 2005, at the El Dorado Park West Community Center, in the Senior Center Library, 2800 Studebaker Rd., Long Beach.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

President Kozaites adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Black
Executive Secretary
to the Director

c: Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine